

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 15-34, and 37-38 are pending, with claims 1 and 37 being the independent claims. In this Amendment, claim 37 has been amended to correct minor errors. No new matter has been added. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Initially, Applicant thanks Examiner James Bidwell for the telephone interview on July 30, 2007. In the interview, Applicant discussed with Examiner Bidwell proposed amendments to clarify the language of claim 37, for which Examiner Bidwell approved for entry in an Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312.

Accordingly, claim 37 has been amended to now recite "wherein correct positioned metallic closures are selected during conveying and released at a higher release place as correctly positioned closures in a row of closures follow one another closely" and "wherein a) along the conveyer belt to the sensor and discharge device a separating device is arranged above the conveyer belt and adapted to separate metallic closures for one or more of supplying more than one row of closures next to one another to the sensor and discharge device and guiding together several rows of closures into the row of closures following one another closely after the sensor and discharge device; or b) the wrong-positioned closures are configured to be discharged towards both sides of the conveyer belt at the sensor and discharge device." As acknowledged by Examiner Bidwell, these amendments clarify the language of claim 37. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment be entered.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant maintains that the above-identified application remains in condition for allowance and that no new matter is added or new issues introduced as a result of these amendments. As always, if the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at any time. It is believed that no additional fees are due for filing this Amendment. However, if there is a shortage or deficiency in fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit any difference to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

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